

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Washington, D.C. 20240 http://www.blm.gov

August 24, 2004

In Reply Refer To: (250)P

MEMORANDUM

To:

State Directors (California, Oregon and Utah)

Attention: State Recreation Leads

From:

Assistant Director, Renewable Resources and Planning

Subject:

Status of the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program FY 2001 Evaluation

Recommendations

DD: 11/30/04

The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) collects over \$10 million annually through the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program and implements improvement projects with revenue which in some cases has accumulated since 1997. In order to further demonstrate the ability to manage the fee program in the manner intended by Congress, the National Recreation Group has been conducting an internal program evaluation of the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program. These evaluations have paved the way for permanent authorization, ensured proper fee management, and highlighted best practices throughout the Bureau.

We conducted an evaluation during the FY01 in your State and request that you provide a response to the status of the findings/recommendations that were given by the site evaluation team. It is important to continue to improve the collection procedures and promulgate the best practices for program implementation and expenditures, as well as to minimize negative findings from regulatory agencies. It is also important to ensure that funds raised through the Recreational Fee Demonstrations Program are being use for enhanced services and not being used to off-set recreation appropriated dollars. We are asking for a written status report to ensure that improvements are continually being made to the program and to share remedies to some of the fee program issues throughout the Bureau that were found during the FY01 evaluations.

We ask that you respond to each of the findings/recommendations in the report in the following manner:

1) Were the Findings and Recommendations useful for helping and strengthening the program?

2) How did the staff address the Finding and Recommendations?

3) Did the staff solve the Finding in another way other than the Recommendation?

a. If so, please explain how you resolved the Finding.

Please have a written and emailed response to the National Recreation Group by November 30, 2004. Please mail all responses to Anthony Bobo, Jr., WO 250, LS302 and email them to albobo@blm.gov. If you have any question please call Anthony Bobo, Jr., National Recreation Group Evaluation Lead, at (202) 452-0333.

Thomas H. Dyer

Deputy Assistant Director,

Renewable Resources and Planning